

from the implementation of the CCMP's Management Actions. By characterizing the economic factors implicit in each of the CCMP Management Actions, a better understanding can be gained of the relative magnitude of costs and benefits accruing to different sectors of the regional economy as well as their relative distribution among sectors.

A qualitative analysis of the economic tradeoffs was selected chiefly because of the large number of Management Actions in the CCMP. A thorough economic analysis of each, although potentially yielding very useful results, would have been costly and time consuming. Moreover, citizens and public officials in the APES region have expressed rather urgent concerns and questions regarding the potential economic impacts of APES recommendations. It was felt that a characterization could be developed in a timely manner, and that the results would be sufficiently comprehensive to help frame the tradeoffs facing various stake holders and to aid in focusing debate on the selection and implementation of appropriate policy. Preliminary results of RAI's analysis were integrated into the second and third drafts of the CCMP, the final draft of which is being finalized at the time of this writing.

A second project objective was to locate and evaluate relevant economic studies, data, and methodologies that can be used to determine the economic consequences of the CCMP. A comprehensive literature search was performed in the course of the analysis and extensive contacts were made with government agencies, researchers and others involved in fields related to the Plan. Important sources of information are referenced throughout this document.

The third objective was to set priorities for further economic and policy studies based on the results of the characterization effort. The characterization has yielded a great deal of information about the potential distribution of costs and benefits generated by implementing CCMP Management Actions. However, quantitative estimates of the economic impacts of selected Management Actions, cost effective implementation strategies, and analyses of policy mechanisms would provide further direction for policy makers. A discussion of recommended future work in these areas is provided at the end of this report.

The remainder of this report is arranged as follows:

- A general discussion of the economic trade-offs involved in the conservation of ecological resources;
- The analysis of the individual Plans, including a description of each Management Action, a discussion of important economic issues raised and a characterization of the incidence of economic costs and benefits to user groups and the regional economy; and,
- Recommendations for improving the CCMP and for conducting more detailed economic studies that would best support on-going planning and implementation.